U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Michael F. Kimble, 34, of Woodbridge, Virginia, a U.S. Army Captain assigned to the recruiting command, was sentenced today by the Honorable Claude M. Hilton, Chief United States District Judge, to serve 12 months and one day of imprisonment for identity theft. No fine was imposed.

Kimble pled guilty on October 21, 2002, to a criminal information charging him with one count of identity theft. Beginning in August 2001 and ending in February 2002, he used the names, birth dates and Social Security numbers of six other people to open credit card and bank accounts in their names over the Internet. To maintain control over the accounts, the defendant used a commercial maildrop in Woodbridge as the address for the accounts. Kimble then transferred his own personal debts to the credit cards he had illegally obtained. On February 13, 2002, Kimble learned that one of the victims had contacted law enforcement authorities. By that time, he had transferred nearly \$50,000 of his own debts and expenses to credit cards in the names of his victims.

In addition to a subordinate in the recruiting command, the defendant's victims included civilians who had visited a recruiting station in Arlington to inquire about joining the Army. The Arlington recruiting station was one of the facilities under Kimble's authority, and Kimble used his access to its records to obtain his victims' personal identifiers.

This case was investigated by the Washington Metro Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael J. Elston.